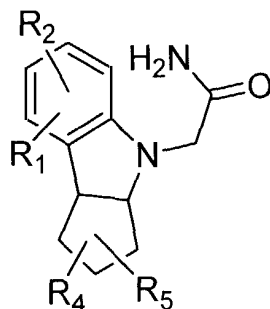


Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

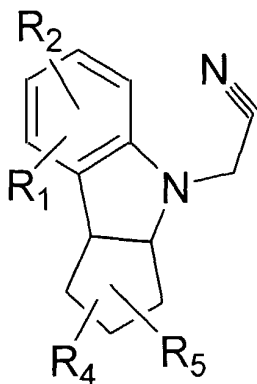
1. (Original) A compound of the formula:



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are each, independently, hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, halogen, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, -CN, -NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl or aroyl.

2. (Original) A compound of Claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are hydrogen, and R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in Claim 1.
3. (Original) A compound of Claim 1 wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are hydrogen, and R<sub>5</sub> is as defined in Claim 1.
4. (Original) A compound of Claim 1 which is 2-(2,3,3a,8b-Tetrahydro-1*H*-cyclopenta[*b*]indol-4-yl)-acetamide.

5. (Original) A compound of the formula:



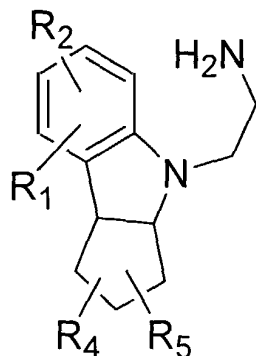
wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are each, independently, hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, halogen, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, -CN, -NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl or aroyl.

6. (Original) A compound of Claim 5 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are hydrogen, and R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in Claim 1.

7. (Original) A compound of Claim 5 wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are hydrogen, and R<sub>5</sub> is as defined in Claim 1.

8. (Original) A compound of Claim 5 which is 2-(2,3,3a,8b-Tetrahydro-1H-cyclopenta[b]indol-4-yl)-acetonitrile.

9. (Original) A compound of the formula:



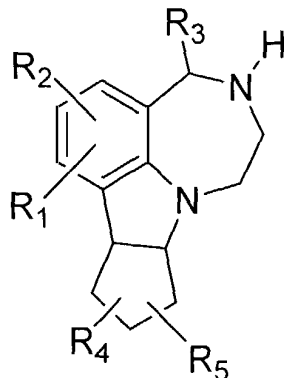
wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are each, independently, hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, halogen, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, -CN, -NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl or aroyl.

10. (Currently amended) A compound of Claim 5 9 wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are hydrogen, and R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in Claim 1.

11. (Currently amended) A compound of Claim 5 9 wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are hydrogen, and R<sub>5</sub> is as defined in Claim 1.

12. (Currently amended) A compound of Claim 5 9 which is 2-(2,3,3a,8b-Tetrahydro-1H-cyclopenta[b]indol-4-yl)- ethylamine.

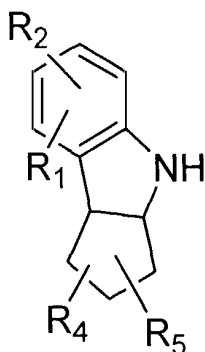
13. (Currently amended) A process for synthesis of a compound of the formula:



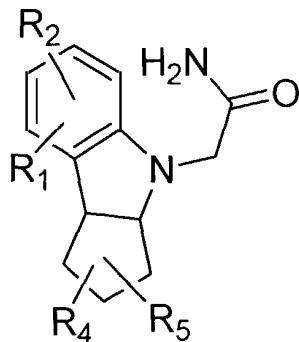
wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $[[R_3,]]$   $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are each, independently, hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, halogen, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, -CN, -NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl or aroyl;

$R_3$  is hydrogen, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, -NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl, or aroyl;as defined in Claim 1, ~~the~~ the process comprising the steps of:

- a) converting a cyclopenta[b]indole compound of the formula:

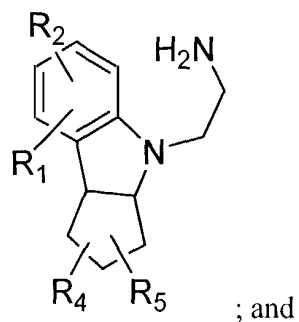


to an optionally substituted cyclopenta[b]indol-4-ylacetamide compound of the formula:

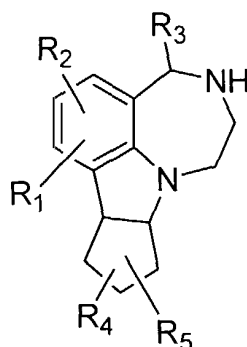


;

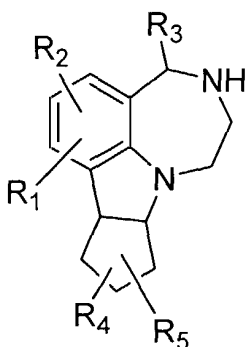
- b) reducing the optionally substituted cyclopenta[b]indol-4-ylacetamide of step a) to the corresponding optionally substituted cyclopenta[b]indol-4-yl-amine of the formula:



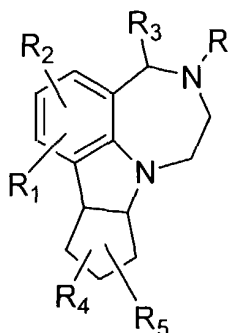
c) cyclizing the cyclopenta[b]indol-4-yl-amine of step b) to an optionally substituted diaza-benzo[cd]cyclopenta[a]azulene compound of the formula:



14. (Currently amended) The process of Claim 13 further comprising the step of treating the diaza-benzo[cd]cyclopenta[a]azulene compound of the formula:

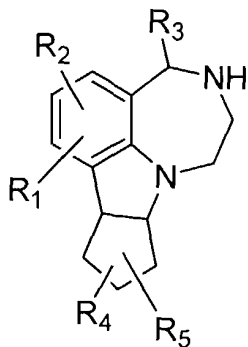


with an alkylating agent to produce a compound of the formula:

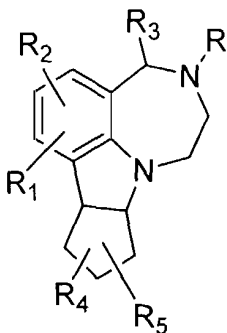


wherein R is alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 13.

15. (Currently amended) The process of Claim 13 further comprising the step of treating the diaza-benzo[cd]cyclopenta[a]azulene compound of the formula:

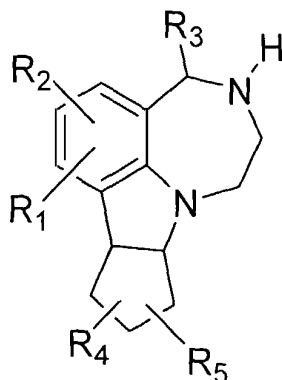


with an acylating agent to produce a compound of the formula:



wherein R is -C(O)R'; R' is alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or aryl;  
and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in ~~Claim 1~~ Claim 13.

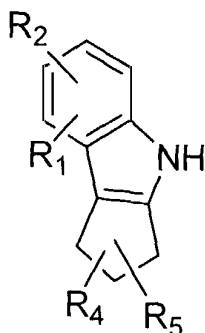
16. (Currently amended) A process for preparing a compound of the formula:



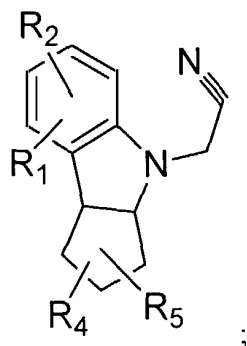
wherein  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$ ,  $[[R_3,]]$   $R_4$  and  $R_5$  are each, independently, hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, halogen, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, -CN, -NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl or aroyl;

$R_3$  is hydrogen, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, -NH-SO<sub>2</sub>-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, -SO<sub>2</sub>-NH-alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl, or aroyl; as defined in Claim 1, the process comprising the steps of:

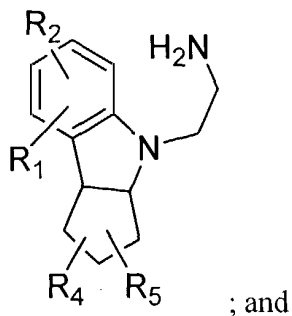
a) converting an optionally substituted cyclopenta[b]indole compound of the formula:



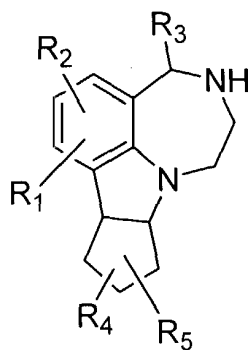
to an optionally substituted nitrile compound of the formula:



b) reducing the optionally substituted nitrile compound of step a) to provide an optionally substituted amine compound of the formula:

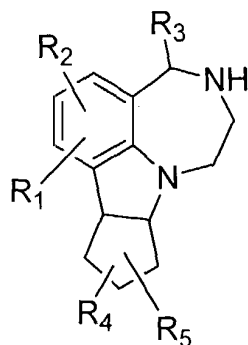


c) cyclizing the amine compound of step b) to an optionally substituted diaza-benzo[cd]cyclopenta[a]azulene compound of the formula:

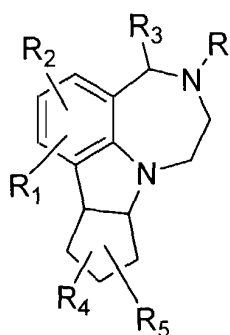


17. (Currently amended) The process of Claim ~~13~~ 16 further comprising the step of treating the diaza-benzo[cd]cyclopenta[a]azulene compound of the formula:



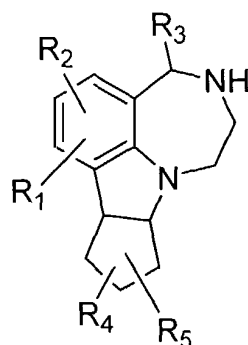


with an alkylating agent to produce a compound of the formula:

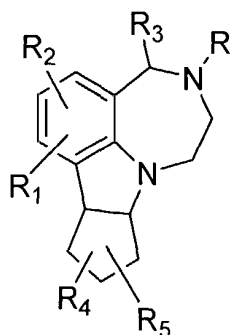


wherein R is alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in ~~Claim 14~~ Claim 16.

18. (Currently amended) The process of Claim ~~13~~ 16 further comprising the step of treating the diaza-benzo[cd]cyclopenta[a]azulene compound of the formula:

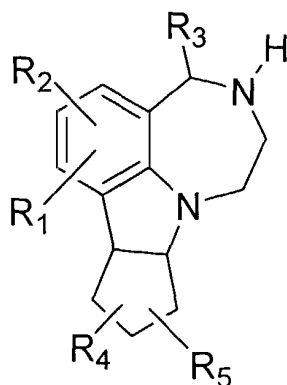


with an acylating agent to produce a compound of the formula:



wherein R is  $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'$ ; R' is alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms or aryl;  
and R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are as defined in Claim 1 Claim 16.

19. (New) A process for preparing a compound of the formula:



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are each, independently, hydrogen, hydroxy, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, halogen, fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms,  $-\text{CN}$ ,  $-\text{NH}-\text{SO}_2$ -alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms,  $-\text{SO}_2-\text{NH}$ -alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl or aroyl;

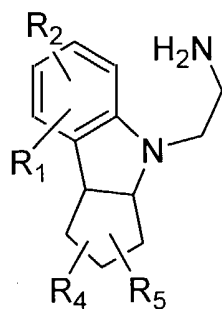
R<sub>3</sub> is hydrogen, alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, cycloalkyl, alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms,

fluorinated alkyl of from 1 to 6 carbon atoms,  $-\text{NH}-\text{SO}_2$ -alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms,  $-\text{SO}_2-\text{NH}$ -alkyl of 1-6 carbon atoms, alkyl amide of 1-6 carbon atoms, amino, alkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms, dialkylamino of 1-6 carbon atoms per alkyl moiety, fluorinated alkoxy of 1-6 carbon atoms, acyl of 2-7 carbon atoms, aryl, or aroyl; the process comprising the steps of:

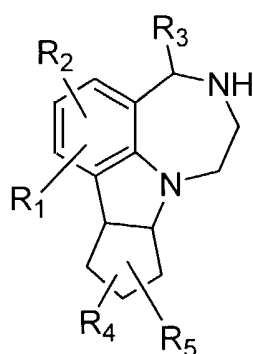
cyclizing an optionally substituted amine compound of the formula:

Serial No.: 10/016,418  
Confirmation No.: 8652  
Art Unit: 1624

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to provide an optionally substituted diaza-benzo[cd]cyclopenta[a]azulene compound of the formula:



wherein R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub>, R<sub>4</sub> and R<sub>5</sub> are defined as above.